

SA

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/773,156	SHIRAKI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Huyen Le	3751	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on 03/17/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-6 and 8-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>6/8/05</u>.</li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Steven Weihrouch on June 8, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1,

Line 8, after "position", insert --; and wherein the male-and-female connection is established by a projection and a hole receiving the projection, wherein the projection extends downwardly from a bottom surface of the case, and wherein the hole is formed in the stationary plate--.

In claim 2,

Line 5, after "plate", delete "such that";

Line 5, after "plate", insert -- with a male-and-female connection--;

Line 6, before "the case", insert --and wherein--;

Line 7, after "bowl", delete ".";

Line 7, after "bowl", insert --; and

wherein the male-and-female connection is established by a projection and a hole receiving the projection, wherein the projection extends downwardly from a bottom surface of the case, and wherein the hole is formed in the

Art Unit: 3751

stationary plate.--

Cancel claim 3.

In claim 6,

Line 2, before "frontward direction", insert --a--.

Cancel claim 7.

In claim 8,

Line 1, after "Claim", change "7" to--1--;

Line 3, delete "protruding portion";

Line 3, before "is", insert--projection--;

Line 3, change "opening" to --hole--.

In claim 11,

Line 1, substitute "protrusion" with--projection--;

Line 2, substitute "opening" with --hole--;

Line 3, substitute "protruding portion" with --projection--;

Line 3, substitute "opening" with --hole--.

In claim 12,

Lines 2-3, delete "and wherein said male-and-female connection includes a protrusion and an opening,";

Line 3, after "least one of said", substitute "protrusion" with --projection--;

Line 4, before "includes", substitute "opening" with --hole--.

Line 5, substitute "protrusion" with --projection--;

Line 5, substitute "opening" with --hole--;

Art Unit: 3751

Line 6, substitute "protrusion" with --projection--;

Line 6, substitute "opening" with --hole--;

Line 8, substitute "protrusion" with --projection--;

Line 8, Line 6, substitute "opening" with --hole--.

In claim 13,

Line 1, substitute "protrusion" with --projection--;

Line 2, substitute "opening" with --hole--.

Cancel claims 18-20.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record alone or in combination teaches a sanitary washing toilet device comprising a stationary plate for attachment to a rear top surface of a toilet bowl; a case accommodating a washing mechanism for spraying warm water from a nozzle, wherein the case is mounted onto the plate with a male-and-female connection such that the case is movable in a direction toward a front of the toilet bowl, wherein the male-and-female connection is underneath a bottom of the case such that the male-and-female connection is concealed at least when the toilet seat device is in a retracted position; and wherein the male-and-female connection is established by a projection and a hole receiving the projection, wherein the projection extends downwardly from a bottom surface of the case, and wherein the hole is formed in the stationary plate.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Art Unit: 3751

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huyen Le whose telephone number is 571-272-4890. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine Yu can be reached on 571-272-4835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HL  
June 8, 2005

  
JUSTINE R. YU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

6/10/05